

**REMARKS**

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated June 21, 2005 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claim 1 is hereby amended. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4-6, and 18 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 4-6, and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 3,143,301 to Traunter ("Traunter") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,680,505 to Funada ("Fundada").

The rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-6, and 18 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, and 18 are allowable over the cited references in that each of these claims recites a combination of elements including, for example, "an L-shaped connector for electrically connecting the electrode of the lamp to the wire, the connector directly contacting the electrode of the lamp and a portion of the wire." None of the cited references including Traunter or Funada, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Neither, Traunter or Funada teach or suggest an "L-shaped connector" as claimed. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4-6, and 18 are allowable over Tranter and Funada.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the

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filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: October 20, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

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